Electoral Reforms

2550. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up the three bills about electoral reforms pending before parliament;

(b) if so, when and whether the Government propose to enforce the electoral reforms in Punjab before election there; and

(c) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF LAW, JSUTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Bill would be taken up as early as possible. Enforcement of the electoral reforms in Punjab and elsewhere would depend upon the passing of these Bills by the parliament.

Service Charges on Cheques

2552. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Service charges on cheques - consumer grievance body's judgement against bank" appearing in the Indian Express of September 11, 1991;

(b) whether the nationalised banks are still charging Re. 1/- per cheque from the customers despite clear directions from R.B.I. to charge only 2 paise per cheque; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have seen the news item referring to the judgement passed by the Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum, Bombay against Canara Bank about levey of service charges for issue of cheque books to account holders. Canara Bank has reported that it has preferred an appeal against the said judgement before the Maharashtra State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission which has since been admitted.

The public sector banks have revised their service charges with effect from 1/7/1990. A charge of Re. 1/- per leaf has accordingly been levied in four metropolitan cities namely, New Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta on issuance of cheque books. This charge is not levied however on Savings Bank accounts of individuals.

Defence Electronic Complex at Cochin

2553. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to establish 'Defence Electronic Complex' at Cochin in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the proposed complex is likely to be completed; and

(d) the estimated cost of this complex?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d). A suggestion